

## Message Text

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22

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 IO-11 ISO-00 L-03 FRB-03 OMB-01

TAR-01 SP-02 AGR-05 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 INR-07

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CEA-01 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 SAM-01 /087 W

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R 230905Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2330

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION OECD PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L JAKARTA 1007

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EGEN, UNCTAD, ID

SUBJECT: MEETING OF ASIA SUBGROUP OF GROUP OF 77 - JANUARY 19-21

REF: JAKARTA 0811

1. SUMMARY: MINISTERS OF ASIA SUBGROUP OF GROUP OF 77 REPORTEDLY AGREED TO ENDORSE ADMISSION OF PLO TO GROUP OF 77 AND ISSUED ACTION PROGRAM FOR DISCUSSION AT MANILA PLENARY SESSION OF 77 OPENING JANUARY 26. RESOLUTIONS STILL CONFIDENTIAL, AND EMBASSY HAS OBTAINED ONLY FRAGMENTARY INFORMATION ON SESSION. ACCORDING DUTCH EMBASSY SOURCE, THERE WERE SUBSTANTIVE RESOLUTIONS INCLUDING PROPOSAL FOR; "INTEGRATED" APPROACH TO COMMODITIES WITH BUFFER STOCKS, WHICH ARAB COUNTRIES AGREED TO HELP FINANCE; CLOSER COORDINATION OF ACTIVITIES OF THE 77 THROUGH CENTRAL MECHANISM IN GENEVA; AND ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW SUBGROUP WITHIN THE 77 TO INCLUDE MALTA AND OTHERS NOT GEOGRAPHICALLY ASSOCIATED WITH ASIA OR OTHER SUBGROUPS. SINGAPORE EMBOFF SAID SESSION ALSO INCLUDED IDEOLOGICAL ATTACKS  
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ON ZIONISM, SOUTH AFRICA AND RHODESIA AND CONSIDERABLE UNPRODUCTIVE

SEMANTIC AND PROCEDURAL WRANGLING. END SUMMARY.

2. SENIOR OFFICIALS OF ASIAN SUBGROUP MET JANUARY 13-18 AND MINISTERS JANUARY 19-21 TO PREPARE FOR PLENARY GROUP OF 77 MEETING IN MANILA OPENING JANUARY 26, WHICH WILL BE FOLLOWED BY UNCTAD IV IN NAIROBI IN MAY. PRESIDENT SUHARTO URGED COOPERATION, NOT CONFRONTATION IN WELCOMING ADDRESS BUT SAID BASIC REFORM URGENTLY NEEDED (REFTEL). GOI MINISTER OF ECONOMY WIDJOYO, WHO CHAIRED MINISTERIAL SESSION, MADE FOLLOWING POINTS IN SPEECH TO SENIOR OFFICIALS, SOME OF WHICH WERE APPARENTLY REFLECTED IN FINAL RESOLUTIONS OF MINISTERS: A) UNCTAD SHOULD BE DEVELOPED INTO A "PRIMARY NEGOTIATING ENTITY" FOR REACHING CONCRETE AGREEMENTS AND PROGRAMS, AND GROUP OF 77 SHOULD IMPROVE INTERNAL UNITY TO THIS END; B) INTEGRATED PROGRAM FOR COMMODITIES OF CONSUMER NATIONS IS NEEDED, ALTHOUGH COMMODITIES DIFFER AND REQUIRE PARTICULAR SOLUTIONS; COOPERATION OF DEVELOPED COUNTRIES IS NEEDED, OR LDC'S WOULD HAVE NO CHOICE THAN TO RESORT TO UNILATERAL ACTION; C) GROUP OF 77 AND OTHER GROUPS SHOULD COORDINATE NEGOTIATING AND DECISION MAKING PROCESS WITH SIMILAR EFFORTS TAKING PLACE WITHIN UN SYSTEM; D) TRANSFER OF RESOURCES FROM DC'S TO LDC'S SHOULD ACHIEVE YET UNREALIZED TARGET OF 1 PERCENT OF GNP'S OF INDUSTRIAL NATIONS; E) GSP HAS BEEN DISAPPOINTING TO MOST DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, WHOES EXPORTS ARE NOT COVERED; F) MORE ATTENTION NEEDED TO HEAVY DEBT BURDEN ON LDC'S AND G) TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY MUST BE ACCELERATED.

3. BRIEF COMMUNIQUE ISSUED BY MINISTERS EXPRESSED "DEEP CONCERN AND GREAT DISAPPOINTMENT" OVER "WORSENING RELATIVE POSITION" OF LDC'S AND CALLED FOR "URGENT, FUNDAMENTAL CHANGES" TO REDRESS GROWING ECONOMIC IMBALANCE AND INEQUITIES BETWEEN DC'S AND LDC'S. IT ALSO WELCOMED RESOLUTIONS OF LAST UNGA SPECIAL SESSION FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER AND CHARTER ON ECONOMIC RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF STATES.

4. DECISIONS AND ACTION PROGRAM ADOPTED BY MINISTERS REMAIN CONFIDENTIAL, BUT MINISTER OF DUTCH EMBASSY INFORMED EMBOFF THAT MINISTERS AGREED TO RECOMMEND A) ADMISSION OF PLO TO GROUP OF 77; B) EXCLUSION OF MALTA - WHICH ATTENDED AS OBSERVER - AND OTHER NON-ASIAN COUNTRIES FROM ASIA SUBGROUP AND ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW SUBGROUP WITHIN THE 77 THAT WOULD EMBRACE MEMBERS NOT ASSOCIATED  
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GEOGRAPHICALLY WITH EXISTING SUBGROUPS; C) NEW MECHANISM - PERHAPS TO BE LOCATED IN GENEVA - FOR COORDINATING GROUP OF 77 ACTIVITIES WITH THOSE IN OTHER FORA; D) INTEGRATED APPROACH TO COMMODITIES, INCLUDING BUFFER STOCKS WHICH ARAB NATIONS AGREED TO FUND IN PART. (COMMENT: IF ARAB MEMBERS INDEED AGREED TO HELP FINANCE BUFFER STOCKS, THIS APPEARS TO BE A NEW DEPARTURE.)

5. ACCORDING SINGAPORE EMBOFF, GOS DELEGATIONS AT MEETINGS WERE

UPSET WITH ADMISSION OF PLO BUT DID NOT OPPOSE; THAILAND AND PHILLIPPINES DID EXPRESS OBJECTION, BUT WERE OVERRIDEN. HE SAID SINGAPOREANS ALSO DISAPPOINTED THAT SESSION WASTED TIME ON HOSTILE IDEOLOGICAL RESOLUTIONS AGAINST ZIONISM, SOUTH AFRICA AND RHODESIAN AND WRANGLING OVER TECHNICAL POINTS. HE SAID INDONESIAN HOSTS ALSO CONCERNED WITH TENDENCY OF SOME DELEGATES TO STRESS IDEOLOGY AND PROCEDURE. HE SPECULATED THAT THERE WAS STILL A DANGER THAT RADICAL IDEOLOGICAL, AND PAROCHIAL INTERESTS IN THE 77 MIGHT TURN UNCTAD IV INTO REPEAT OF STERILE AND FRACTIOUS UNCTAD III AT SANTIAGO.

6. MEETINGS OF SENIOR OFFICIALS AND MINISTERS WERE ATTENDED BY REPRESENTATIVES OF AFGHANISTAN, BANGLADESH, BHUTAN, CYPRUS, INDIA, INDONESIA, IRAN, IRAQ, JORDAN, MALAYSIA, NEPAL, OMAN, PAKISTAN, PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION, PAPAU NEW GUINEA, PHILIPPINES, QATAR, REPUBLIC OF KOREA, SINGAPORE, SRI LANKA, SYRIA, THAILAND, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES, AND YUGOSLAVIA. OBSERVERS FROM MALTA AND VARIOUS INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS ALSO ATTENDED. MINISTERIAL MEETING WAS PRECEDED BY SENIOR OFFICIALS MEETING JANUARY 13-18.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Concepts:** ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, NONALIGNED NATIONS, MEMBER ADMISSIONS  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** CunninFX  
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**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** CunninFX  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 22 APR 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <22 APR 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <12 AUG 2004 by CunninFX>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MEETING OF ASIA SUBGROUP OF GROUP OF 77 - JANUARY 19-21  
**TAGS:** EGEN, ID, UNCTAD, PLO  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006